IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KUSKIN, et al.   Examiner: Unknown

Serial No. 09/663,045   Art Unit: ~~2132~~ 2661

Filed: September 15, 2000

Title: HARDWARE MAC

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October 25, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed before Applicants' receipt of an Office

Action. Prior to examination, kindly amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the third paragraph on page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The FLPM process 20 include both time-critical and non-time-critical functions that

relate to the processing of frames between the high-level functions associated with the MLME

process 18 and the low-level functions associated with the FTM process 22. The time critical

functions may need to be carried out on the scale of approximately 30-40 microseconds as

compared with the smallest time scales in the system, which are of the order of 16 microseconds,

for the separation between frames. These may include operations related to interframe spacing

and timing, retrying frames, encrypting frames, decrypting frames, filtering frames, receiving

acknowledgements, and transmitting beacons. By contrast, the non-time-critical functions may

only need to be carried out on the scale of milliseconds or even seconds. These may include

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